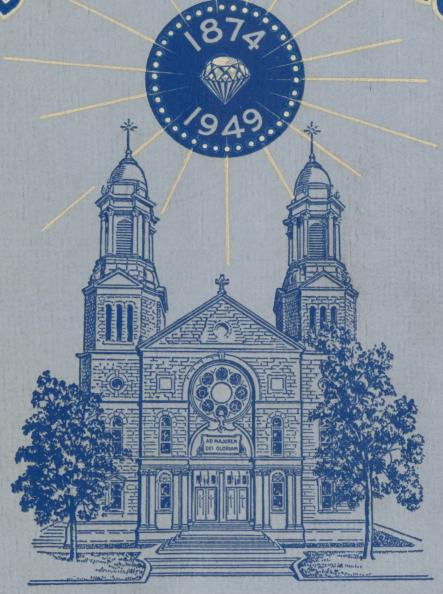
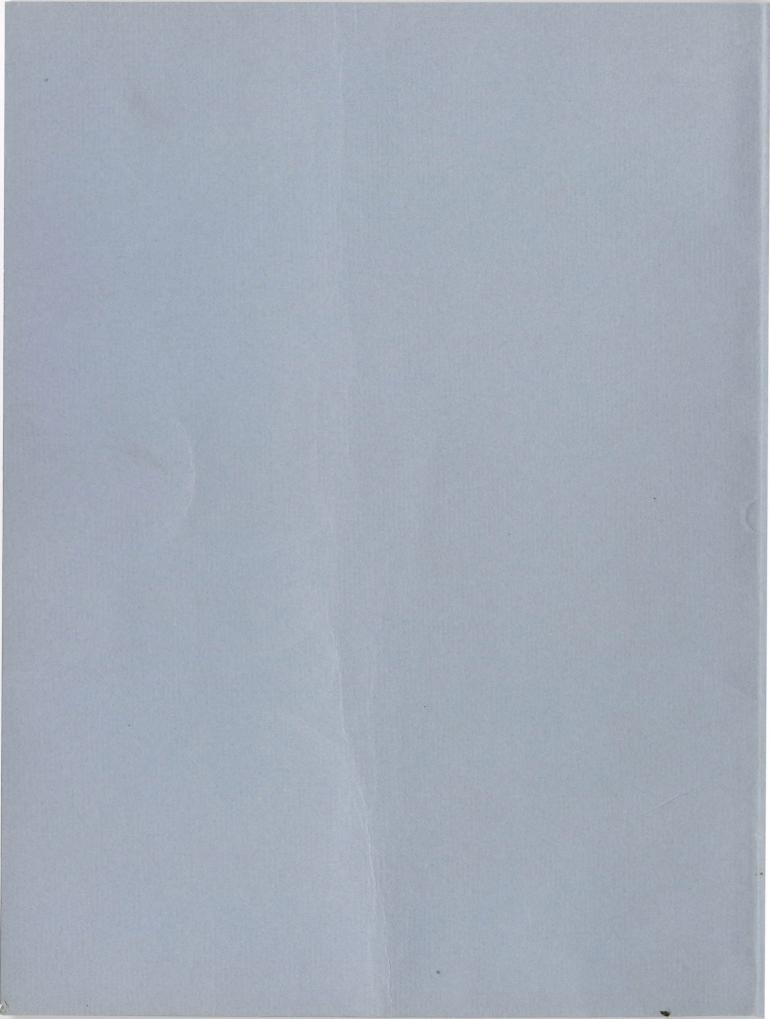
F- Hovember 28, 1949

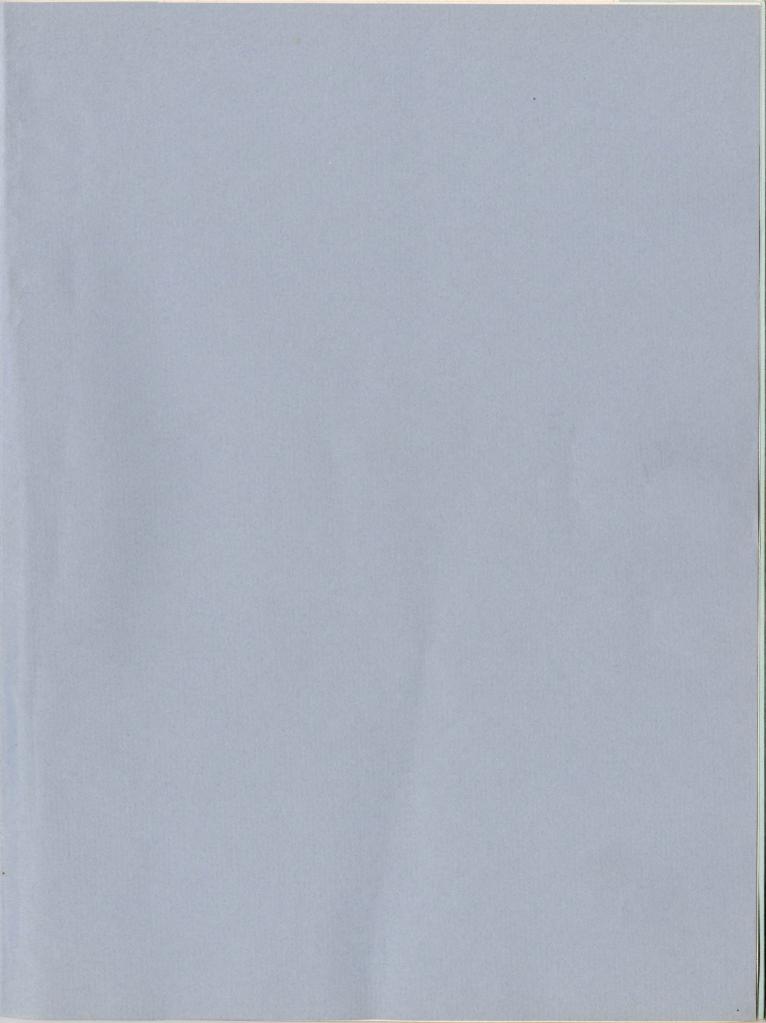
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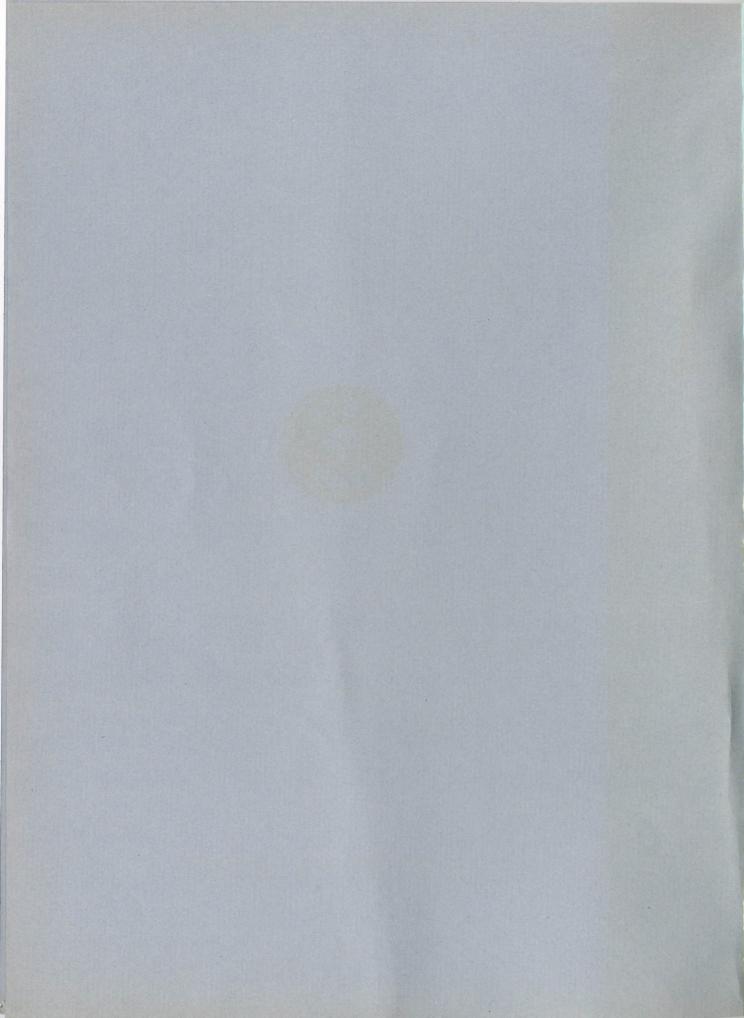


ST. PROCOP'S CHURCH CLEVELAND, OHIO







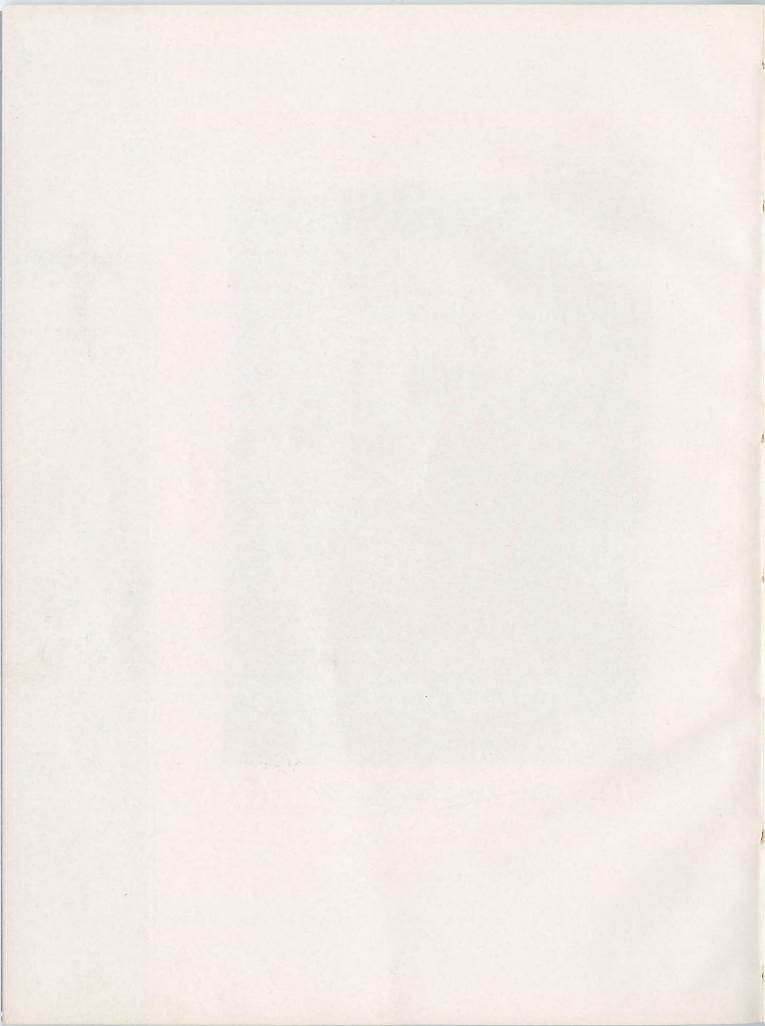


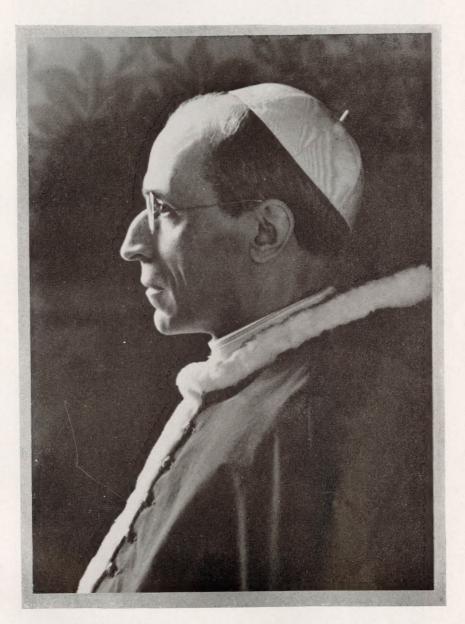


DIAMOND JUBILEE



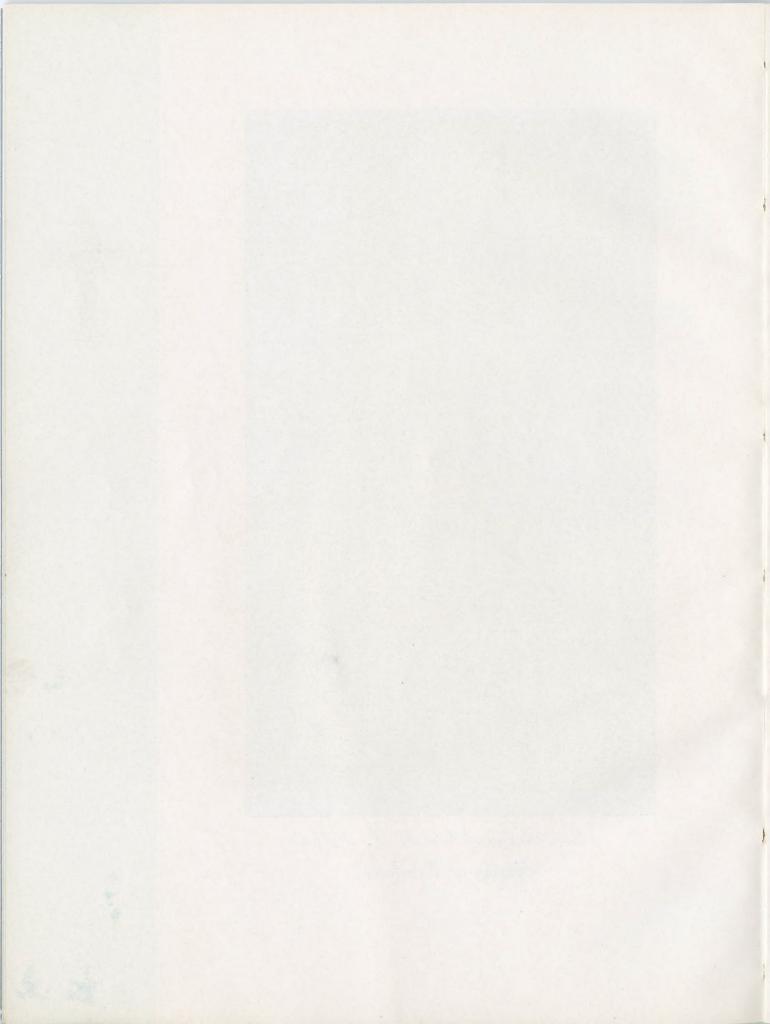
ST. PROCOP'S CHURCH CLEVELAND, OHIO





Holy Father Pope Pius 911

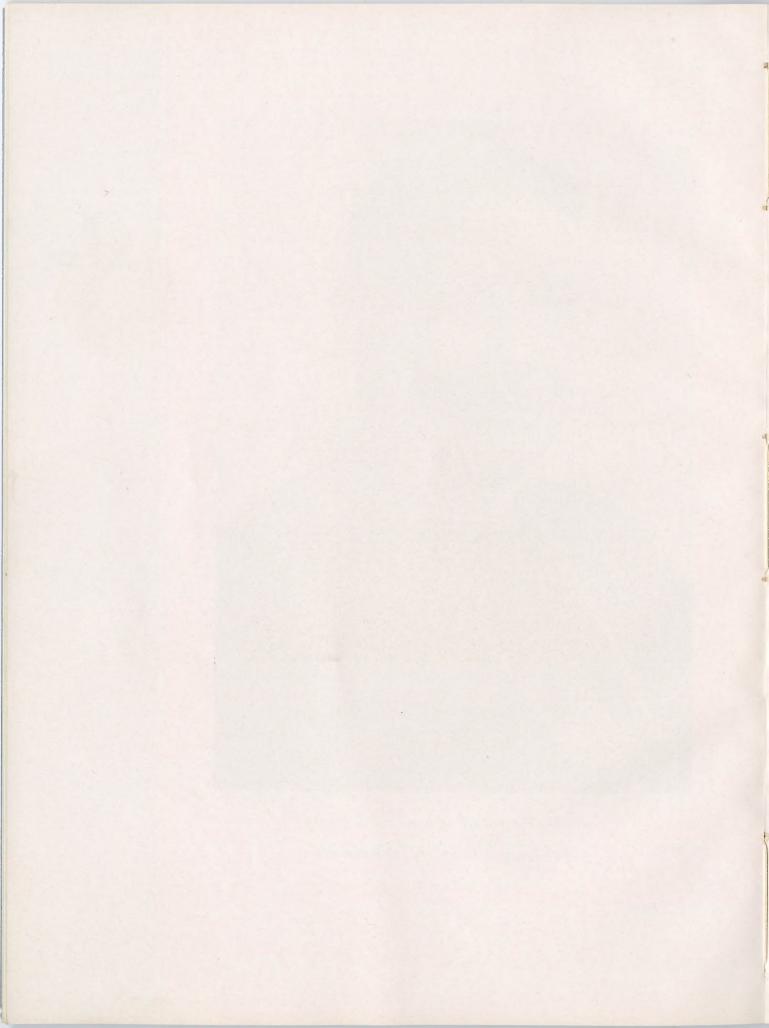






Most Reverend Edward F. Hoban Bishop of Cleveland







Most Reverend Floyd L. Begin Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland









Rev. Wenceslas A. Uhlir Pastor



7 5 TH ANNIVERSARY





Rev. Joseph C. Step Assistant Pastor



Rev. Howard J. Wolf Assistant Pastor



7 5 TH ANNIVERSARY

In Memory of



RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR
PETER M. CERVENY

Pastor of
ST. PROCOP CHURCH
Cleveland, Ohio
Born November 14, 1868
Ordained Priest December 17, 1892
Pastor of St. Procop since May 4, 1901
Elevated to Domestic Prelate
June 19, 1925
Died November 3, 1942



RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR
JOHN W. BECKA

Pastor of
ST. PROCOP'S CHURCH
Cleveland, Ohio
Born October 16, 1874
Ordained May 27, 1899
Invested as Domestic Prelate
August 10, 1947

Pastor at St. Procop's
April 7, 1943 to July 31, 1949
Died July 31, 1949





Our Boast

PRIESTS

RT. REVEREND FRANCIS J. HROCH RT. REVEREND WENCESLAUS F. NOVAK -REVEREND WENCESLAUS J. HORAK REVEREND WENCESLAUS CHALOUPKA REVEREND JOSEPH V. KOUDELKA REVEREND FRANCIS FAFLIK REVEREND ALBERT J. MASAT REVEREND LAWRENCE DIK REVEREND JOSEPH STEDRONSKY REVEREND OLDRICH MAZANEC REVEREND WENCESLAUS UHLIR REVEREND FRANCIS MEZERA REVEREND ANDREW ANDREY REVEREND GERARD MACH, O.S.B. REVEREND ERNEST ZISKA, O.S.B. REVEREND HILARY HERTVIK, O.M.C. REVEREND GILBERT HERTVIK, O.M.C. REVEREND WENCESLAUS HERTVIK, O.M.C. REVEREND FRANCIS HABART REVEREND STANLEY VANA, S.J. REVEREND FLORIAN HUDAC, O.S.B. REVEREND JAMES SLAMINKA REVEREND RALPH NETRY, O.S.B.

SEMINARIANS

MR. BENEDICT PTACEK, O.C.S.O. MR. JOHN MACURAK, S.J. MR. JOSEPH K. PILOT, S.J.

BROTHERS

BROTHER NORBERT FUCIK, O.S.B. BROTHER FERDINAND NOVACEK, S.J.





Our Sisters

JOLIET SISTERS

SISTER M. CELESTIA KLIMA, O.S.F.

SISTER M. SYLVIA KOZAK

SISTER M. BAPTISTA KROFT

SISTER M. MILADA STASTNY

SISTER M. VICTORINE KODADA

SISTER M. ADELA PETER

SISTER M. INEZ KREJCI

SISTER M. CLETA KOKTA

SISTER M. PETRA PESICKA

SISTER M. ANITA PROKOP

SISTER M. VIRGINIA KARIZEK

SISTER M. STEPHANIA PETRIK

SISTER M. PHILOMENE BARSA

SISTER M. ROSALINE KODADA

SISTER M. CLEMENSINE KOCAB

SISTER M. JOAN PREISING

SISTER M. REGINA TRISKA

SISTER M. VICTOR BENIAK

SISTER M.DONALD VANA

SISTER M. CELESTE KOCAB

SISTER M. PRUDENTIA KOLARIK

SISTER M. AUSTIN KRBEC

SISTER M. VIRGINETTE ESNER

SISTER M. LUDMILLA VONDRA

SISTER M. CONSILINE HORAK

SISTER M. NORBERT NETRY SISTER M. URSULA HANZL

SISTER M. KARLA ZDENEK

SISTER LOUISE MARIE SKOCH

SISTER M. RITA ROSE ZASEMBA

SISTER M. ALPHONSE JAROS, O.S.F. (R.I.P.)

SISTER M. WENDELIN JAROS, O.S.F. (R.I.P.)

SISTER M. STANISLASA KRUPKA, N.D.

SISTER M. GERMANIA KOUDELKA, N.D.

SISTER M. CELESTINE PANOCH, C.S.J.

SISTER M. BENEDICT UHLIR, C.S.J.

SISTER M. ROSALIA UHLIR, C.S.J.

SISTER M. MAGDALEN PROCHASKA, C.S.J.

MOTHER M. CLEMENTINE KOCAB, C.S.A.

SISTER M. BERTILLE MARIK, C.S.A.

SISTER M. FLORENTINE FUCIK, O.S.B.

SISTER M. BERNADETTE KERKA, O.S.B.

SISTER M. DEPADUA POJMAN, O.S.F.

SISTER M. MARJORIE KOTERSHALL, H.H.M.

SISTER M. EUTYCHIA SANDA

SISTER M. CORONA KAFUN, O.S.U.

SISTER FRANCES ELIZABETH RAK



Dejiny Osady Sv. Prokopa

Osada sv. Prokopa založená byla důst. p. Antonínem Hynkem roku 1873., t. j. jeho návodem a přičiněním zakoupen pozemek a počato se sbírkou na stavbu nového kostela.

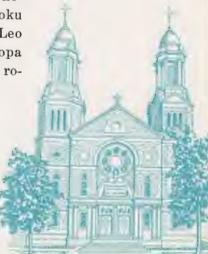
Nejvíce Čechů od roku 1852., kdy nastal největší ruch přistěhovalecký českého lidu, přišlo do Clevelandu od Písku, Tábora, Prahy a Budějovic. Z prvých těchto Čechů valný počet usadil se na levém břehu řeky Cuyahoga, v tehdejším Brooklynu, který tehdy tvořil osadu pro sebe; tedy na západní straně města.

První katolický kostelík v Clevelandu postaven byl roku 1835. na Columbus ulici. Do tohoto kostelíka docházeli katoličtí Čechové ze západní strany.

Dne 14. září roku 1872. přijat byl tehdejším clevelandským biskupem, Richardem Gilmourem, důst. p. Antonín Hynek a povolán do Clevelandu, aby tu založil česko-katolickou novou osadu na západní straně města. Po svém příchodu do Clevelandu byl důst. p. A. Hynek jmenován farářem této nové osady a ihned dal se do práce. Zakoupena čtyři stavební místa za \$3,200 na Burton ulici a osada založena roku 1873. a zasvěcena patronu českému, sv. Prokopu. Po mnohých obtížích a nesnázích až teprve po roce postaven dřevěný kostel na zakoupeném staveništi a na podzim roku 1874. vysvěcen. Mezitím důst. p. V. Repiš, farář u sv. Václava, osadu opustil, a tu na žádost nejd. p. biskupa Gilmoura spravoval důst. p. Hynek obě české osady, sv. Václava a sv. Prokopa, až do vysvěcení důst. p. Josefa M. Koudelky na kněze, který dne 8. října roku 1875. převzal z jeho rukou osadu sv. Prokopa.

Důst. p. Josef M. Koudelka, pozdější světící biskup diocése clevelandské a Milwaucké, a pak biskup v Superior, Wis., první to biskup z české krve v Americe, povolán byl do Clevelandu nejd. p. biskupem R. Gilmourem ze semináře St. Francis, Wis., kde studoval filosofii a bohosloví, pro osadu sv. Prokopa. Od října roku 1874, až do 17. února roku 1875. obsluhovali osadu důst. p. Bonaventura, františkán, a důst. p. Leo Zumbuhl, profesor v semináři, kteří přicházeli do kostela sv. Prokopa každou neděli mši sv. sloužiti, křtili, oddávali a pohřbívali. V únoru ro-





Cur Trustees

Frank Veverka

Joseph Vevera

Stephen Andrey

George Matejka

Joseph Kocian



Our Councilmen

Theodore Marsh

Edward Klamert

John Martinek

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Clarence Wagner

James Tesar

Joseph Kral

Clarence Krejci

James Ptacek

Emil Sherry

Leo Dusek

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John Nekl

John Cermak

Edward Pros

George Prucha

John Sibel

Edward Pfahl

Andrew Prokop

Clarence Canda

George Krejci

John Hlavaty

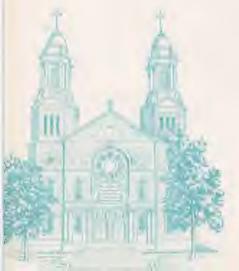


Our Choir

VINCENT BENDA, Choir Master

Frances Farina, Assistant Choir Master

The present Choir consists of 20 Male Voices



ST. PROCOP'S PARISH

ku 1875. důst. p. J. M. Koudelka byl vysvěcen na jáhna, a jako jáhen již 20. února t. r. křtil u sv. Prokopa, a od té doby zde kázal každou neděli a křtil. Konečně pak dne 8. října 1875. byl vysvěcen na kněze. První mši sv. sloužil 10. října 1875, v kostele sv. Prokopa. Osadu svatoprokopskou pak spravoval až do 15. června roku 1882. Za těch sedm let, co řídil osadu, uplatil dluh obnášející \$9000, upravil faru a jednopatrovou školu, a zakoupil dva loty pozemku pro osadu.

Na žádost tehdejších českých kněží v Americe, dovolil důst. p. J. M. Koudelkovi biskup clevelandský, aby převzal vedení časopisu "Hlasu" v St. Louis, Mo. Za tou příčinou a v tom domění, že jako redaktor "Hlasu" bude moci více vykonat pro český národ a pro Boha, nežli pouhý duchovní správce osady, opustil důst. p. Koudelka osadu sv. Prokopa a odebral se do St. Louis, Mo.

Nástupcem jeho ustanovil nejd. p. biskup R. Gilmour důst. p. Františka J. Antla, na doporučení tehdejších českých kněží v Americe, kněze to z diecése chicagské. Důst. p. Antl byl pak farářem u sv. Prokopa až do 28. června roku 1883. V té době (r. 1882. a 1883.) mezi katolickými Čechy v Clevelandu byla nespokojenost a všude to vřelo, až konečně vznikla z toho bouře povážlivé tvářnosti z těchto hlavně příčin: Clevelandský biskup nařídil, že každou první neděli v měsíci lednu navrhne farář osady občany volitelné a v neděli na to z těchto navržených členů osady lid si zvolí osadní výbor. Mnozí však osadníci svatoprokopští dle těchto, pro celou diecési platících zákonů, výbor voliti nechtěli a postavili se proti rozhodnutí svého biskupa.

Zde však dlužno dle pravdy podotknouti, že při odchodu důst. p. Jos. M. Koudelky do St. Louisu roku 1882.nebylo v osadě sv. Prokopa ani té nejmenší známky o nějakém nepokoji. Teprve za rok po odchodu jeho z osady sv. Prokopa, t. j. roku 1883., za duchovní správy důst. p. Frant. J. Antla, vypukly ve zmíněné osadě nepokoje, které způsobily mezi tamními katolickými Čechy veliký rozvrat.

Nástupce důst. p. Jos. M. Koudelky, když tento byl v St. Louisu, důst. p. Fr. J. Antl, nedovedl zažehnati vzniklých za něho nepokojů. Nejd. p. biskup viděl se nucena povolati důst. p. Koudelku ze St. Louisu nazpět do Clevelandu. Zatím nejd. p. biskup propustil důst. p. Antla, a ustanovil farářem osady sv. Prokopa důst. p. Štěpána Furdeka (v červenci roku 1883), dosavádního faráře P. Marie Lourdské. Ale různice neustaly ani tehdy, a důst. p. Furdek dne 3. února, 1884, odešel z osady









JI. Procop's Rectory



M. Procep's School

ST. PROCOP'S PARISH

a vrátil se zase do osady P. Marie L. Důst. p. Furdek byl farářem u sv. Prokopa sotva osm měsíců. V jeho čase vypukly nové bouře o volby výborů, které však měly původ svůj hlavně v návodu několika nespokojenců, kterým osobní záležitosti byly nad osadní. Následkem těchto bouří a jaksi i za trest, ale hlavně proto, že nebylo jiného kněze po ruce, zavřel nejd. p. biskup Gilmour kostel sv. Prokopa a nechal osadu půl druhého roku bez kněze. Od února roku 1884. až do srpna r. 1885. byl kostel sv. Prokopa zavřený, žádný kněz nebyl na té osadě a lidé umírali bez svátostí.

Počátkem srpna roku 1885. byl kostel sv. Prokopa otevřen Msgrem. Felixem N. Boffem, tehdejším generálním vikářem v Clevelandu, jenž dal pro osadu tu vysvětiti na kněze důst. p. Antonína Vlčka biskupem v Bufalo, N. Y. Osada silně pobouřená se stišila a zase vzkřísila a z trosek její utvořila se nová osada, jež počala znovu vzkvétati. Z počátku byl důst. p. Ant. Vlček oblíbeným u svých osadníků; později však se od něho odklonili pro jeho příliš liberální názory a světský život. Věc celá konečně přednesena nejd. p. biskupovi Ign. Horstmannovi, a důst. p. Vlček opustil diecési a kněžský stav, koncem července roku 1893.

Po jeho odchodu obsluhoval osadu důst. p. Fr. Breymann T. J., jezuita, až do 23. srpna r. 1893.

Koncem srpna roku 1893. přijal do naší diecése nejd. p. biskup Ing. Horstmann důst. p. Václava Koernera a ustanovil jej farářem u sv. Prokopa. Ten setrval ve svém úřadě až do 5. června roku 1896., kdy se poděkoval a opustil naší osadu a diecési.

Po jeho odchodu ujal se správy osady sv. Prokopa důst. p. Václav Panuška, kterého nejd. p. biskup ustanovil a který svůj úřad nastoupil 7. června r. 1896. "Za jeho správy vykonány různé potřebné opravy, a dne 14. ledna roku 1899., při osadní schůzi, rozhodnuto bylo stavěti nový kostel, odtáhnouti starý kostel na loty čelící na Newark ulici a vystavěti pod starý kostel basement, aby až jednou nový kostel vystaven bude, starý kostel se mohl užívati jako síň pro divadla a zábavy. Nový kostel měl míti místo pro 1300 osob a stavěn ve slohu italského Renaissance, má býti 144 střevíců dlouhý, 88 střevíců široký v kříži a 62 v lodi. Při stavbě jeho má býti použito žlutých cihel a modrého kamene z Berea, O. Stavební komité, jež osadníky zvoleno bylo 14. ledna r. 1899., representuje všecky spolky. Komité ono rozhodlo, aby se topil nový kostel horkou vodou, a kotel aby se umístil pod starý kostel a odtud aby roury rozvedeny byly pod nový kostel, do fary a školy." Tolik zaznamenáno v osadní







Our Sister's Convent





kníze. Tato usnešení byla jen potud uskutečněna, že kostel byl vybudován a sice z kamene, pískovce, ale jen z venku, ostatní vše bylo pominuto. Neboť důst. p. Panuška resignoval a dne 2. dubna roku 1901. opustil osadu a diecési, zanechav kostel uvnitř úplně nedokončený.

Po jeho odchodu sloužil mše sv. v neděli v kostele sv. Prokopa důst. p. dr. Jiří Murphy, profesor v semináři.

Dne 28. dubna roku 1901. ustanoven farářem osady sv. Prokopa důst. p. Petr M. Červený, (jenž do té doby působil na slovenské osadě sv. Ladislava v Clevelandu), a od té doby blahodárně v ní působí až do dnes. Následující čteme v "Dějinách Čechův Amerických":

"Za jeho správy vykonáno v osadě sv. Prokopa velmi mnoho. Ihned v srpnu roku 1901. zavedeno bylo do všech osadních budov ústřední topení parou a zbudována kotlárna, což vše vyžadovalo nákladu \$15,000. Na jaře r. 1902. započato s vnitřním dohotovením a úpravou nového kostela. Na podzim pak téhož roku, krátce před Vánocemi, nový kostel dohotoven. Nádherný chrám, zasvěcený sv. Prokopu, jenž stál celkem \$92,000.00, byl vysvěcen dne 4. července, v den sv. Prokopa, roku 1903. českým benediktinským opatem, nejd. p. J. N Jaegrem z Chicaga, Ill., ač bohoslužby v něm konány již od 17. června roku 1901., kdy ještě nebyl dohotoven. Starý kostel pak přeměněn byl v osadní síň a spolkové místnosti.

Jelikož se ukázalo nutným postaviti novou školu osadní, zakoupeny pro ni v květnu roku 1904. dvě staveniště v rozměrech 76 při 140 na W. 41. ulici za \$2,300.00. V květnu r. 1907. zakoupena dvě stavební místa — jedno na Trent ave. a druhé na Newark ave. — za \$800.00 pro dům ctih. sester učitelek a dům domovníka. Dne 8. září r. 1907. položen základní kámen k nové, nádherné česko-katolické škole, která jest zbudována z cihel a kamene a stále \$75,000.00. Dne 8. září r. 1908. počalo v ní vyučování.

Dne 15. června r. 1907. za kaplana osady sv. Prokopa ustanoven byl vel. p. Fr. J. Faflík, nyní již v Pánu zesnulý. Jako kaplan působil na osadě do 15. listopadu r. 1909. Po něm vypomáhal v osadě jesuita důst. p. Jan Neustich až do června r. 1911., kdy kaplanem našim byl ustanoven důst. p. Václav F. Novák. V červenci r. 1915. byl důst. p. Novák ustanoven farářem slovenské osady Nejsv. Trojice v Lorain, O. Na jeho místo nastoupil pak u nás důst. p. Karel Sovák, který byl naším kaplanem až do svého odchodu do osady sv. Václava v Allegheny, Pa., v červnu r. 1918.





V září r. 1923. koupeny dva majetky na Newark ulici za \$12,000.00, kde má býti vybudován nový Besední dům čili Club House osady sv. Prokopa.

Dne 23. června r. 1918 za kaplana ustanoven byl velp. Václav Slabý, a působil mezi námi až do náhlé smrti 20. září 1926.

Na 4. července 1924 oslavila osada naše 50-letou památku svého založení. Této slavnosti se súčastnil tehdejší biskup Veldp. Joseph Schrembs. V červnu r. 1925 osada obdařena byla druhým kaplanem vlp. Josefem Andělem. V tom stejném měsíci vlp. P. M. Červený povýšen byl na papežského preláta s titulem nejdůstojnější monsignor. Během tohoto roku vystaven byl z cihel a z kamene nový klášter pro ctih. sestry učitelky. Celkem stála tato poslední budova, kterou Msgr. Červený dal postavit \$70,000.00.

Po náhlé smrti velp. Václava Slabýho dne 20. září ustanoven byl velp. Raymund Matoušek za kaplana. Zde působil až do roku 1930, kdy byl ustanoven za kaplana na osadě sv. Rodiny. Jeho místa se ujal novosvěcenec velp. Josef Hůzl.

Po 40. letech úpěnlivého namáhání a starostlivé péče všemohoucí Bůh povolal nejdp. Msgr. Červenýho k Sobě k věčnému odpočinku 3. listopadu r. 1942. Zádušní mši svatou sloužil světící biskup Jas. A. McFadden. Přítomen byl také nemocný biskup Joseph Schrembs.

Z osady vyšlo 22 kněží a 48 řeholních sester.

Na místo zesnulého duchovního správce farářem osady sv. Prokopa ustanoven byl dne 7. dubna r. 1943 velp. Jan Bečka..

Ačkoliv dlel v kruhu nových osadníků pouze 6 let, mnoho nutných oprav učinil. Vynaložil své veškeré síly okrášliti obzvláště dům Boží.

Dne 30. srpna r. 1947 velp. Jan Bečka byl povýšen na papežského preláta a dva roky později 30. července odebral se k věčnému odpočinku.

Tak končíme krátké dějiny naší drahé osady. Když pohlížíme zpět na uplynulá léta, musí každý z nás uznati, že mnoho jsme dlužni předchůdcům naším. Kéž svatý Prokop stojí v kruhu našich zesnulých osadníků, vyprosí nám od Boha dalších milostí. Kéž osada naše bude vždy vzor katolického života.



Jubilee Program

Sunday morning, November 13, 1949



SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS at 10:30 o'clock

The Most Reverend Bishop Edward F. Hoban Celebrant

Assistant Priest Very Rev. Wenceslas Hertvik, O.F.M. Conv. Deacons of Honor . . Rev. Joseph W. Koudelka, Rev. Oldrich A. Mazanec Deacon of the Mass Rev. Joseph M. Andel Sub. Deacon of the Mass Rev. Raymond K. Matousek Master of Ceremonies Rev. Howard J. Wolf Sermon Right Rev. Msgr. Wenceslas F. Novak

Jubilee Banquet

Sunday evening, November 13, 1949 at 6 o'clock

$\stackrel{\wedge}{\sim}$

NATIONAL ANTHEM







The Interior of Sa

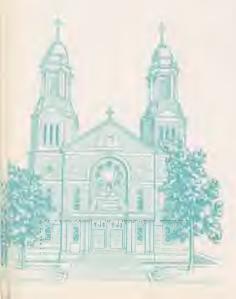


nt Procop's Church





Exterior of St. Procof's Church



ST. PROCOP'S PARISH

History of St. Procop's

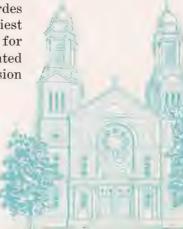
The history of St. Procop's Parish, as of any other, is a story of devotion to God, sacrifice, and perseverance.

St. Procop's Parish was started in the year 1873 by the Rev. Anthony Hynek who had been called in by Bishop Gilmore for the benefit of the Czech immigrants who had settled on the west banks of the Cuyahoga River. Up to that time, they had attended services in St. Mary's of the Flats, and later St. Mary's on West 30 St. and St. Patrick's Churches. In September, the new, two-floor frame church was dedicated to St. Procop.

Upon the departure of Rev. V. Repis from St. Wenceslaus Church on old Arch Street, Father Hynek succeeded him and administered to the needs of both congregations. From October, 1874, to February 17, 1875, he was assisted by Rev. Bonaventure, O.S.F., and Rev. Leo Zumbuhl, professor in St. Mary's Seminary. In Feburary, 1875, Joseph Koudelka, later to become the first auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland, was ordained Deacon and began to excerise the functions of his office, namely administering Solemn Baptism and preaching on Sundays in the Czech language. Rev. Koudelka was ordained October 8, 1875 and celebrated his First Mass in St. Procop's Church on October 10. He was appointed pastor and took up his residence in one room of the combination building. In the fall of 1876, St. Procop's School came into existence. The parishioners were eager that their children be given the opportunity, denied to many of them, of securing a good Catholic education. Two laymen acted as school masters. The following school term Father Koudelka was fortunate to secure the services of three Notre Dame Sisters, Sisters Floriana, Clementine, and Germana. As there was no home for them, these sacrificing Sisters commuted daily from St. Stephen's School.

In 1882, Father Koudelka, yielding to the urging of the Czech priests throughout the United States, left St. Procop's for St. Louis to become the editor of the Czech Catholic paper, "Hlas", which was battling the anti-Catholic dailies and weeklies which had put in their appearance. He was succeeded by Rev. J. Antl from the Chicago diocese. After a year's administration, the parish became divided into two factions. Unable to cope with the situation, he returned to Chicago. Rev S. Furdek was appointed pastor and stayed eight months before returning to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish which he had founded. The unrest became worse and since no priest was available, Bishop Gilmore closed the church. It remained closed for one and a half years until Rev. A. Vlchek, ordained in Buffalo, was appointed pastor in 1885. With the reopening of the church and school, the dissension





gradually disappeared. In 1892, the Sisters of St. Joseph succeeded the Notre Dame Sisters as teachers.

In 1893, Rev. V. Koerner became pastor and in 1895 he requested the Sisters of St. Francis from Joliet to take the school which had grown to six rooms serving 400 children. The first four grades were in the combination building and the 5th and 6th grades in the separate building which has since been put to varied use, lastly as the C.Y.O. building.

Upon Father Koerner's resignation, Rev. V. Panuska became pastor on June 6, 1896. He readily recognized the need for more adequate modern school facilities. However, the church on the second floor of the school was even more impractical due to the difficulties caused by the two narrow stairways, especially on the occasions of funerals. Thus at a general meeting on January 14, 1899, the plans for a new school were postponed in favor of a new church. The combination building was moved from the corner of Trent and West 41st St. to Newark Ave. The decisions of the Building Committee were not fully realized as a basement was never excavated under the old school building.

Father Panuska began the erection of the Italian-Byzantine style church but did not remain to see it completed. He resigned April 2, 1901. The parish for the fifth time was left without a pastor. Meanwhile the church was attended by Rev. G. Murphy, professor at St. Mary's Seminary.

On April 28, 1901, a new pastor was appointed. He was the erstwhile pastor of St. Ladislas, the Rev. P. M. Cerveny, a fearless priest endowed with indomitable courage and well fitted for this new responsibility. That same year, a central heating plant was installed at a cost of \$15,000, and services were held in the uncompleted church. The following spring work was begun on the interior of the new church and shortly before Christmas it was completed. One of the most beautiful churches in Cleveland, erected at a cost of \$92,000, St. Procop's Church was dedicated on July 4th, 1903, the feast of St. Procop, by Abbot J. N. Jaeger, O.S.B.

In May of 1904, two dwellings on W. 41st Street were purchased on a lot 76 by 140 feet. In May, 1907, two additional lots, one on Newark and the other on Trent Ave. were procured for \$800. On September 8, 1907, the cornerstone was laid in the new school. The following year on September 8th, classes were held in the new building. The old combination building was now completely used as club and meeting rooms. Simultaneously with the school, a rectory was built. Cost of the school was \$75,000; the rectory cost \$15,000.

One of Father Cerveny's hobbies was the dramatic club, "Boleslav Jablonsky" which periodically entertained overflowing gatherings and of which he was a very able director.



On June 15, 1907, the parish gained its first assistant in Rev. F. Faflik. He remained until November 15, 1909. After his departure, the extra Mass on Sunday was said by Rev. J. Neustich, S.J.

In June, 1911, another youth of the parish, Rev. W. Novak, celebrated his First Mass and remained as assistant until July, 1915, when he was appointed pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Lorain. During his stay, he organized the Senior Servers Club. That organization provided an outlet for the athletic as well as dramatic abilities of its members. Annually the Senior Servers were hosts to servers of the grade school, a day joyfully anticipated for it meant a ride on the Inter-urban Car to Puritas Spring Park.

Father Novak was succeeded by Rev. C. Sovak, D.D., who remained until he took over the pastorate of St. Wenceslas Parish in Alleghany, Pa. In the Fall of 1915, the first year of Commercial education was added and in the Spring of 1917 the first class was graduated from the Commercial High School.

On June 23, 1918, Rev. J. Slaby became assistant. The young folks were now being given much needed attention. Sports were introduced on a larger scale. Father Slaby was one of the co-founders of the Catholic Church Basketball League. His one ambition of triumphing over the arch-opponent, Holy Family, was never realized.

In 1923, additional land was purchased on Newark Ave., the site of the future Gymnasium and Club House.

On July 4, 1924, the parish celebrated its Golden Jubilee with a Pontifical Mass officiated by Bishop Joseph Schrembs.

In June, 1926, Rev. J. Andel was appointed as 2nd assistant. Father Cerveny, in recognition of his services, was invested as a Domestic Prelate by His Holiness Pope Pius XI. In the same year, a Sisters' Convent with accommodations for twenty Sisters was added to the group of Parish Buildings at a cost of \$70,000.

On September 20, the parish was startled by news of the sudden and accidental death of Father Slaby. On September 26th, Rev. R. Matousek was appointed to serve as assistant and he remained until July 3, 1930, when he was transferred to Holy Family Parish.

On October 2, 1929, St. Procop's Church was consecrated. In this grand ceremony, Bishop Joseph Schrembs was assisted by Bishop M. Gallagher of Detroit and Bishop J. Boyle of Pittsburgh.

On July 3, 1930, Rev. J. Huzl, a newly ordained priest, was appointed to succeed Father Matousek. With the guidance of the two assistants, Father Andel and Father Huzl, sports not only among the children of the parish school but also among the teen-agers flourished. The girls' Indoor Team captured several trophies as did the boys' teams in soft ball and basketball.



This in no small part was due to the financial aid given by the members of the Recreation Council.

During the trying days of the depression, the St. Vincent de Paul Society under the guidance of Father Huzl rendered untold good to the needy of the parish.

In 1942, Msgr. Cerveny was honored by public officials and other prominent men of varied faiths as well as by the parishioners on the occasion of his completion of forty years as pastor of St. Procop's. In this long tenure, he became synonymous with St. Procop's,—he was St. Procop's in all its glory and tradition. To the consternation of his beloved flock who were in the midst of readying themselves for the celebration of his Golden Jubilee as a priest of God, Msgr. Cerveny passed away in St. John's Hospital in November, 1942.

After months of delay in which Father Andel acted as administrator, Rev. J. Becka was appointed pastor on April 7, 1943. Despite his advanced age, he plunged into the task of making much needed repairs. The school, rectory, and convent were renovated.

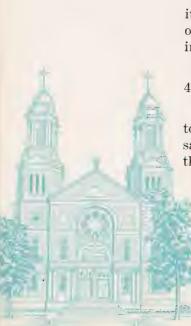
On April 7, 1943, Father Andel was transferred to become pastor of St. Adelbert's Church. He was succeeded by Rev. J. Step. On June 3, 1943, Father Huzl was transferred to St. John Nepomucene Parish and his place was taken by Rev. O. Korab who remained until 1945 when he became pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Wadsworth, O. On June 14, 1945, Rev. F. Mezera became assistant and he died suddenly six days later. On June 21, 1945, Rev. H. Wolf was appointed assistant.

On August 10, 1947, Father Becka became a Domestic Prelate. He made plans for the elaborate renovations of the interior of the church. He, however, never saw the finished product of his plans. After fifty years in the service of God and six years as pastor of St. Procop's, he was suddenly called to his reward on Sunday, July 31, 1949. The beautiful interior which stamps St. Procop's as one of the most elegant churches in the country is his legacy to his parishioners.

On August 18, 1949, Rev. W. A. Uhlir, a son of the parish, who attended its school, said his First Mass in its church and whose parents were founders of this parish, was transferred from the pastorate of Holy Family Church in Parma, Ohio, to become the present pastor of St. Procop's Church.

This congregation has given to the service of God, 22 priests, 2 Brothers, 47 Sisters, and 5 Seminarians.

St. Procop's now celebrates its Diamond Jubilee. This Jubilee is a tribute to the priests, Sisters, and the faithful through whose work, zeal and sacrifice this parish, established by a handful of Czechs, has become one of the most prominent in the diocese.



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ST. HELEN'S SOCIETY, No. 59, of Czech Catholic Union

ST. CECELIA'S SOCIETY of Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association

ST. ANGELA'S SOCIETY of First Catholic Ladies Slovak Union

ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIETY, No. 148, of Catholic Central Union

ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, No. 2, of Catholic Central Union

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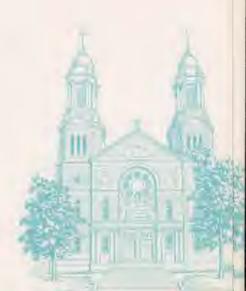
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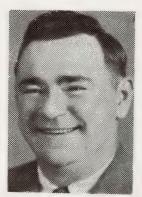
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This spirit of loyalty exhibited today and on so many previous occasions has made St. Procop's Parish a living and vital influence in the Catholic life of Cleveland.

May God bless all of you.

Father Uhlir

